

chapter makes  
presentation to  
county



INSIDE

Elba Lady Tigers  
come in second  
at basketball  
tourney



INSIDE

Coffee County  
Farm City Awards  
presented



# The Elba Clipper

Volume 122 Number 27 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, November 29, 2018 1 Section, 10 Pages Plus 2 Adv. Inserts

During Elba Board of Education meeting

## Superintendent delivers news of \$190,000 grant award to benefit special education

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Elba Board of Education met Monday night, Nov. 26, for its regular monthly meeting, and superintendent Chris Moseley had good news to share with board members.

Moseley said the school system had received a catastrophic grant in the amount of \$190,000 from the state for special education. He said part of that funding would allow the school system to hire a full-time teacher unit and two aides for the special education program at Elba City

Schools, and that would be funded definitely through the end of the current school year.

**"To have a grant to be able to spend on personnel, especially one tied to special education, is great for our school system," superintendent Chris Moseley said.**

Some of the funding also is for equipment and trainings for teachers, Moseley added.

He said the grant funding would run through October of 2019, and there could be opportunities to

apply again to keep the funding going beyond that time.

"To have a grant to be able to spend on personnel,

especially one tied to special education, is great for our school system," Moseley said.

He told board members he hoped to get the positions posted for employment this week and get that process started.

Board members approved a motion to authorize the superintendent to execute an equipment lease agreement with Developers of Elba Inc. to continue a partnership for use of a lawnmower used to cut football, baseball fields,

See BOE, Page 3

## Sheriff's Department investigating Sunday morning shooting incident

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Sheriff's Department currently is investigating a shooting incident that occurred Sunday morning, Nov. 25, in the area of County Road 376.

Elba Police dispatch received a call, at approximately 10:19 a.m. Sunday morning, of a male subject having a gun and another male being shot. The initial report was that someone shot into a residence at



ELBA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS are shown on scene of a structure fire Monday evening, Nov. 26, in Elba. The fire was reported at 8:56 p.m. at 1157 Morrow Avenue in Elba. Upon arrival on scene flames were visible coming from the home, but firefighters were able to quickly extinguish those flames. This photo was taken after the flames had been extinguished but heavy smoke was still coming from the home. No injuries were reported from this house fire.

## Elba Police investigating Nov. 24th stabbing incident

The Elba Police Department is investigating a stabbing incident that occurred Saturday, Nov. 24, at approximately 7:41 p.m., in the area of Martin Luther King Drive and Farris Avenue.

Reportedly, a white male was stabbed in the neck. He was transported to a Dothan hospital to receive treatment, where he reportedly remained as of press time this week.

No arrests have been made in this case, but Elba Police actively are investigating the matter.

See SHOT, Page 3

## Coffee County Commission honors retiring employee

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission recognized its retiring maintenance department director Monday, Nov. 26, during the regular meeting for the

Commission.

Todd Rugg joined the maintenance department for Coffee County on Oct. 25, 1992, and he took the helm as the maintenance department director on July 7, 2014. He will retire from

that position on Dec. 1st after more than 25 years of service to Coffee County.

"This is really a bitter-sweet moment," said Coffee County Commission chairman Dean Smith. "Nobody on this commission is ready for Todd to retire."

He said Rugg had been as dependable as one could ask for in keeping the maintenance department going and keeping the offices and facilities running.

County engineer Marty Lentz said he would most likely miss Rugg the most, but he said he is proud for him and hopes he enjoys his retirement.

Retired county engineer Randy Tindell offered the job of maintenance director to Rugg, and he was in attendance for Monday's celebration to extends thanks to Rugg as well.

While he said anyone could see the great job Rugg did with the buildings around the county, he said it was the behind the scenes stuff that really stood out to him.

"He has a way with dealing with people on a personal level," Tindell said of Rugg. "He was able to diffuse many situations over the years. Todd was a peacemaker around the county."

Tindell said when he asked Rugg to take on the maintenance director's position, he told him to take ownership of the structures and buildings.

"I had no idea he would take it to that level," Tindell said. "It wasn't long before I was trying to figure out 'how to I get him to let go some and not work 24/7?' I never did."

He said he knew when he offered the job to Rugg that he would do a good job, but he had no idea how good of a job he would do.

"It was phenomenal," Tindell said. "I personally appreciate the job you did for the building and

See CCC, Page 3

## Elba City Council approves a fire department training facility location

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council meeting Monday evening, Nov. 26, was limited to passing a fire department resolution, reviewing the financials and a couple of uneventful updates from the Chief of Police Leslie Hussey and Assistant City Clerk, Pat Boothe.

Hussey noted the usual pickup in holiday season police activity and gave sketchy details about a male subject found recently in a roadside ditch in the Mulberry Heights area. He said the man was hospitalized with his injuries but no arrests have been made. The chief indicated the man has so far declined to press charges or even indicate how he ended up in the ditch, bleeding heavily.

Council members were heard to utter positive mummers when Boothe announced that the second of the annual multi-year purchase of new garbage containers were on order and should be arriving

soon.

The council approved a resolution allowing the Elba Fire Department to develop about four acres of city owned property just off Airport Road (behind the National Guard Armory) into a training facility for firefighters. The department plans to develop the facility over the next five years.

The council also authorized the Mayor Mickey Murdock to get an official survey of the property before the firemen begin installing fencing around the area.

Murdock gave an update of the financial status of the City of Elba and noted the fiscal year is off to a good start with the general fund showing a financial bounce of \$27,000 during the first month of the year.

The report also reflected the release of \$200,000 reserve funds from the recently refinanced bond

See ELBA, Page 10

## News Brief:

On Wednesday, Nov. 21, investigators with the Coffee County Sheriff's Department arrested Melissa B. Hudson, age 39, of Elba, Ala., on illegal drug charges.

According to Chief Deputy R.W. Whitworth, Hudson was charged with one count of drug trafficking [methamphetamine] and one count of chemical endangerment of a child. She was taken into custody at her residence without incident and taken to the Coffee County Jail.



THOSE IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE DEDICATION CEREMONY last Sunday afternoon, Nov. 25, for Elba's newest Habitat for Humanity home are shown above in front of the home. The recipient is Benita Kay Smith. It is located on County Rd. 401.

## Coffee County Habitat for Humanity dedicates Elba home

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Elba resident Benita Kay Smith received the keys to her new home Sunday, Nov. 25, thanks to Coffee County Habitat for Humanity.

Coffee County Habitat for Humanity just completed construction of the new home at 703 County Road 401, which was sponsored by the 88 United Methodist churches in the Dothan District, including the Elba United Methodist Church. A dedication ceremony for the home was held last

Sunday afternoon, during which Smith received a Bible for the home from Coffee County Habitat for Humanity along with the keys to her home.

Coffee County Habitat for Humanity board member Charlene Goolsby led the program and said, "We are loving our neighbor this afternoon and that is kind of what Habitat is all about."

Following a traditional dedication ceremony for presentation of the Bible and keys, Smith thanked everyone who had a

See HABITAT, Page 7

## Area Happenings

### DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS (DAV)

**WIREGRASS CHAPTER 99** will be serving a Pancake Breakfast, prior to the New Brockton Christmas Parade, Saturday, Dec. 1, from 7-11 a.m., at the New Brockton Town Hall, 706 East McKinnon St, New Brockton. All net proceeds will provide service funds for active duty, veterans, family members, in the upcoming year. There is a \$5 donation per breakfast with beverage, seating available or to go. For information contact, Chuck Lobdell at (334) 718-5705

### ELBA CITY SCHOOLS AND THE ELBA HIGH

**SCHOOL CHORAL DEPARTMENT** will present Christmas Showcase 2018 on Tuesday, Dec. 4, at 6 p.m. in the Elba High School auditorium. Admission is free. This event will feature The Eclectics Show Choir (including students from Elba, Kinston, New Brockton, and Zion Chapel) and the Elba Elementary School Choir students.

### THE ELBA BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT

will be Thursday, Dec. 6, at 6 p.m., in the Elba High School auditorium. This is open to the public.

### THE COFFEE COUNTY CONSERVATION

**DISTRICT** will be holding its monthly board meeting Monday, Dec. 10, at 6 p.m. The meeting will be held at 214 Factory Avenue N., Elba, Ala.



EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is ‘What are you doing for others?’”- Martin Luther King Jr.

Thanksgiving has come and gone . . . all but the dinner leftovers! After all these years we still have not learned to push away from the table before overeating. Of course we eat the leftovers, but the food is never as delicious as when served freshly cooked, with the steam rising from the bowls. On Thursday, daughter Michele’s table was given the extra punch with the bowl of collards doused with son Eric’s spicy homemade pepper sauce. Clearly we survived the over eating, but are still feeling the after effects that will probably go away early enough that we will have forgotten our gluttonous habits by the next festive gatherings during the Christmas season.

The tragic death in the Hoover shopping mall last week points out the built in danger of having private citizens armed to “stop” active shooter situations. In this case the armed man’s relationship to the shooting incident is still unclear, even though police admit that the individual was probably not the initial shooter. Regardless, he is dead and we have still not heard an explanation of why he was running with a pistol in his hand. He could very well have been chasing the bad guy, may have been involved some way, etc., but again . . . he is dead and family members and friends are upset, as we would be.

There are boogers around every corner! We hesitate to pass this on but there are reports that some academics are opening vowing that the space probe that landed on Mars Monday is now exploration as claimed but interplanetary oppression. Gosh, so many Americans were openly proud and cheering the success of aiming a space ship at something that far away and gently landing it as planned . . . then releasing actual video pictures of the landing, almost instantly. These are probably the same people who are still arguing that there was a hidden conspiracy in the killing of both Presidents Lincoln and Kennedy and to a lesser degree, the President’s brother, Attorney General Bobby Kennedy. Whatever their motives are, they are hinting at political correctness – on hot, forbidding Mars no less. You figure it out!

The “crooked politics” debate in both the recent Georgia governor’s race and Tuesday’s U. S. Senate race in Mississippi are not over. We received a ranting e-mail Tuesday detailing lots of dirty politics, etc., in both states. In the Georgia race our e-mail indicated a federal lawsuit was about to be filed charging a bunch of stuff. The vote is not in on the Mississippi race at press time but the e-mail author is claiming “vote stealing” by a method called Push Polling where they call unsuspecting voters and if they indicate plans to vote for the other candidate, they assure them their phone call is recorded as a vote and there is no need for the voter to go to the polls. That way the opponent loses a vote. Do it enough all across the district and your pal is elected: Apparently this is more effective on elderly and less informed citizens. Now if any of this is happening . . . we have no way of knowing, but it could just be sore losers, and political advisors, who don’t want to admit their inability to win a majority of the votes.




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~ Treading Water on Economic Freedom ~

Guest Editorial by Daniel Sutter

Economic freedom means the ability of individuals and businesses to contract freely with each other. The Fraser Institute recently released its 2018 *Economic Freedom of North America*, which rates freedom in the states. Alabama’s economic freedom score remained virtually unchanged from 2017, ranking us 25th among the states.

The state freedom rankings have three equally weighted components, government spending, taxes, and labor market freedom, and complement Fraser’s ratings of the freedom of nations. The scores range from 0 to 10 (the most freedom), and states are graded on a curve for each of the various elements of policy.

Alabama’s score now stands at 6.22, vs. 6.25 in 2017. Florida has the top score in 2018 at 7.87, followed by New Hampshire and Texas; New York brought up the rear (at 3.90), with Kentucky and West Virginia next. Alabama does best on taxes, thanks to our low income and property taxes, while we trail the national averages for spending and labor market regulation. This year our score for labor market freedom improved, our spending score declined, and taxes remained unchanged.

Economic freedom indices were developed in response to a challenge by economist Milton Friedman about better measuring all the ways government impacts the economy. They have allowed economists to

more thoroughly investigate whether markets deliver the benefits promised by some economists. Dozens of studies now document that economic freedom yields higher standards of living, faster economic growth, higher incomes for the poor, and better environmental quality. The strongest results are found internationally, as freedom varies more between nations than across the U.S. states. Still the states with the most economic freedom have more entrepreneurs and attract more new residents.

And yet in recent years cities and states have enacted or considered laws curbing economic freedom. For example, three states and Washington, DC, now have \$15 per hour minimum wages. Seattle nearly passed a \$275 annual tax per employee on large employers, dubbed the Amazon tax. A November ballot proposal in California nearly lifted a 1995 state prohibition on municipal rent control laws. If economic freedom spurs prosperity so significantly, why are so many states embracing freedom-restricting policies?

A first factor, I think, is our now nearly decade-long recovery. People are more willing to share when they feel prosperous. We see this in charitable contributions, and I think it carries over to politics and specifically policies intended to help less fortunate Americans. Forcing Amazon and Starbucks to subsidize housing for low income Seattle families

seems like less of an imposition when the companies are earning profits.

Second, the costs of policies restricting economic freedom are often hard to see. Consider the minimum wage. Businesses employ fewer workers in low skilled jobs when the minimum wage rises. But the job losses rarely come in the form of pink slips immediately following an increase. Instead, businesses change their staffing as they typically do, through attrition. Workers never being hired can often go unnoticed.

Finally, the tendency of free market economists like myself to exaggerate the costs of rent control or the minimum wage contributes. We often claim that ill-advised policies will wreck the economy. Economists have warned that President Trump’s tariffs on imports from China will likely trigger a “crippling” trade war.

Why economists resort to extremes makes sense. News organizations which use alarming headlines to get people to watch or click are more likely to report dire predictions. And perhaps sound bites can only communicate extreme warnings. But dire predictions combined with largely hidden costs make the economy appear impervious to price controls, taxes, and subsidies.

So perhaps it is good news that economic freedom remained basically unchanged in Alabama in 2018. We are largely resisting the temptation to indulge in well-meaning

but costly government assistance during a strong economy. When the next recession inevitably occurs, times will be tougher for states not exercising restraint now.

*Daniel Sutter is the Charles G. Koch Professor of Economics with the Manuel H. Johnson Center for Political Economy at Troy University and host of Conversations on TrojanVision. The opinions expressed in this column are the author’s and do not necessarily reflect the views of Troy University.*

WARNING!!

Check with your local law enforcement agency on the legitimacy of organizations seeking donations during this season of the year.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Nov. 19, investigated the following incidents: one overdose, one harassment, one domestic dispute, one taser deployment, one identity theft, one lost firearm, one dog bite, one gas drive off, one reckless endangerment, one disorderly conduct, one public intoxication, one attempted murder, one resisting arrest, and two for domestic violence.

The following arrests were made: one for public intoxication, one for disorderly conduct, one for failure to appear, and one for domestic violence.

There were seven traffic citations and 12 traffic warnings issued by Elba Police officers during the timeframe of Nov. 19th – Nov. 25th.

**MONDAY, NOV. 19** – Suspicious vehicle in front of Lawford’s Hardware – further investigation found two subjects sleeping in the vehicle (1:23 a.m.); Report of an unresponsive male at a residence on Martin Luther King Dr – person taken to the hospital by Haynes Ambulance (7:04 a.m.); Received a report of children riding 4-wheelers on Seminole Circle – officers did not locate anyone doing this (2:22 p.m.);

Officers assisted a motorist in front of Fred’s – vehicle was out of gas (5:09 p.m.); Officers assisted an 18-wheeler out of the roadway on Hwy 189 – vehicle was broken down (5:45 p.m.); Domestic disturbance in progress reported on Sunset Blvd (8:47 p.m.).

**TUESDAY, NOV. 20** – Possible drug overdose of a juvenile reported on North Claxton Ave – juvenile was checked out by Haynes EMS but father of juvenile said he would take the juvenile to an emergency room (4:22 a.m.); Report of an unoccupied vehicle in the middle of the roadway in area of Hwy 84 and County Rd 505 – vehicle was towed (5:06 p.m.); Report of someone sleeping in a car in the area of Edgewood Dr (7:26 p.m.).

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 21** – Officer out with an unoccupied vehicle on Hwy 84 that appeared to have a flat tire (1:13 a.m.); Officers responded to a call in reference to an 18-wheeler losing a piece of equipment off the back of the trailer on Hwy 166 – officers called for state highway department to help clear the roadway (5:34 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to a structure fire at 27274 Hwy 87 N – heavy smoke visible

(7:33 a.m.); Report of possible drug use on Claxton Ave (8:14 a.m.); Report of a person bitten by a dog on Smith Ave (3:17 p.m.); Two-vehicle wreck reported on Claxton Ave and Hwy. 203 (3:31 p.m.); Suspicious person reported on Larkin Rd (8:43 p.m.); Domestic dispute reported on Claxton Ave (9:03 p.m.); Officers assisted with a request to assist in unlocking a vehicle on Taylor Mill Rd (11:28 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, NOV. 22** – Officers assisted county units with a structure fire on County Rd 513 (3:20 a.m.); Report of a possible breaking and entering on Taylor Ave (4:11 a.m.); Officers responded to a medical call on Buford St – female having seizures and unresponsive (7:36 p.m.); Report of vehicle vs. motorcycle wreck on Hwy 87 – one subject had minor injuries and was taken to a hospital (8:16 p.m.); Possible prowler reported on Taylor Ave (11:00 p.m.).

**FRIDAY, NOV. 23** – Officers out with two subjects in the Elba Travel Center parking lot – subjects were parking in handicap parking with no handicap ID – both arrested for disorderly conduct and public intoxication (12:06 a.m.); Report of a rolling domestic disturbance from a Swift truck on Hwy 87 N (11:00 a.m.); Report of possible theft of property on Brunson Circle (4:29 p.m.); Report of several shots fired in area of Carver Dr (9:14 p.m.).

**SATURDAY, NOV. 24**

– Suspicious person in area of Reese Ave (11:59 a.m.); Report of possible shots fired in area of Old Samson Rd/Boat Ramp (7:36 p.m.); Report of a subject stabbed in neck in area of Martin Luther King Dr – subject transported to a Dothan hospital (7:41 p.m.); Report of a disabled vehicle in area of Claxton Ave and Hwy 203 – roadway was cleared (9:51 p.m.); Report of possible breaking and entering of a residence on Adkison St (11:15 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported in area of Beaver Dam Apts – one male subject arrested (11:19 p.m.); Report of a single vehicle accident in area of County Rd 400 – no injuries reported (11:51 p.m.).

**SUNDAY, NOV. 25** – Elba Police responded with Coffee County Deputies to a call in the area of County Road 376 in reference to a male subject having a gun and some being shot – victim was located and had been shot in his ankle – he was transported to a hospital in Dothan – shooter reportedly was picked up by a male subject from the location of incident before officers arrived (10:19 a.m.); Verbal altercation between son and mother on Reese Ave (11:41 a.m.); Report of several males near the old funeral home on Martin Luther King Dr and Virgil Coleman talking about fighting and guns – caller thought one person had a weapon (2:05 p.m.); Report of male beating a small child near Johnson St (8:51 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported on Ann St – one arrest made for domestic violence (10:25 p.m.).

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## American Red Cross Blood Drive set for Friday, Nov. 30th, at Kinston High School

The American Red Cross will be accepting blood donors at Kinston High School on Friday, Nov. 30, from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. The school is located at 201 College St. E, in Kinston.

Red Cross has an urgent need for blood donors to give now to ensure blood is available for medical treatments and emergencies during the holiday season.

Blood and platelet donations often decline during the holidays. Regular donors are busy with holiday activities, and travel and severe winter weather may cause blood drive cancellations.

Donors are urged to give now to ensure the availability of blood this winter. In thanks for helping meet the urgent need around the holidays, all those who donate blood now through Dec. 19, 2018, will receive a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email. (Restrictions apply).

More information and details are available at [RedCrossBlood.org/Together](http://RedCrossBlood.org/Together).

Make an appointment to donate blood by downloading the free [American Red Cross Blood Donor App](http://American Red Cross Blood Donor App), visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or calling 1-800-733-2767.

## BOE (Continued from Page 1)

etc.

The superintendent said this had been a great partnership thus far as the lawnmower had been utilized to cut the football field this season. He added that it is more cost effective than other alternatives.

With Christmas holidays coming up next month, the superintendent told board members he would be getting with them on a date for the December board meeting.

Following adjournment of the board meeting, several of the board members attended an advisory council meeting for the career tech programs at the Elba Career Academy at the high school.

(Continued from Page ONE)

## CCC

grounds, but most importantly, for the people of Coffee County."

Rugg said he could not thank the people and employees of Coffee County enough. He said he never could have done what he did without his crew, and everyone involved with the county.

"I have a great crew," Rugg said. "It is one of the best maintenance departments in the state...there is no doubt in my mind."

He said he is 47 now and has spent over half of his life working for Coffee County.

"I will miss it and miss all of you," he said. "I've had so much support, and I thank you all."

Commissioners and Sheriff Dave Sutton each also extended thanks and best wishes to Rugg as he prepares for retirement, but all agreed they hated to see him go.

County administrator Rod Morgan had one item to bring to commissioners for a vote during Monday's meeting.

He said the county's policy on health insurance had always allowed retirees to keep health insurance as long as they paid the full premium. Due to the high cost of that, he said there had never been any interest in it and no retiree had taken advantage of it.

Upon Morgan's recommendation, commissioners voted to approve a resolution to change the policy to no longer allow retirees to keep their insurance.

The county engineer asked commissioners to approve a resolution to ini-

tiate federal aid resurfacing projects on County Road 114 from Wayne Farms to County Road 138; County Road 307 from County Road 306 to the Pike County Line; and County Road 315 from Hwy. 87 N to County Road 305. Lentz said this was to begin preliminary paperwork only for the resurfacing projects.

This resolution was passed with no opposition.

Lentz also asked commissioners to approve order six new dump trucks off the state approved list, and to place six trucks in current use in the JM Wood Auction in June of 2019. He said the county has been able to minimize operating costs for dump trucks by using this ongoing rotation process.

Also, Lentz said the six dump trucks being placed in the auction were purchased in March 2018 for \$142,000, and JM Wood had provided a guarantee of \$144,000 for each truck at auction.

This motion was approved with no opposition.

One final request from the county engineer had commissioners voting to approve him sending out bids for corrugated metal pipe on an as needed basis. He said the hope in this would be to get a better price on the metal.

The sheriff asked citizens to be vigilant of everything they do during the holiday season, which is now here.

Commissioners voted to enter into an executive session prior to concluding Monday's meeting to discuss preliminary negotia-

tions regarding a trade or commerce issue in which the county is in competition for with others. This was certified as an appropriate reason for an executive session, and it was announced the meeting would be adjourned at the end of the executive session with no action being taken.

The next Coffee County Commission meeting will be Monday, Dec. 10, at 9 a.m., in the community room of the county complex in New Brockton.

### CORRECTION:

The photo cutline from the Front Page of the Nov. 22nd edition regarding the Nov. 17th wreck at the Hwy. 84/141 intersection had an error. The cutline should have indicated --

**The Chevrolet Aveo, driven by Deborah Ford, was traveling west on Hwy. 84 when the Nissan Sentra, driven by Caitlin Bradshaw, attempted to cross at the Hwy. 141 intersection thus causing the collision.**

The Elba Clipper apologizes for the mistake & is happy to set the record straight.

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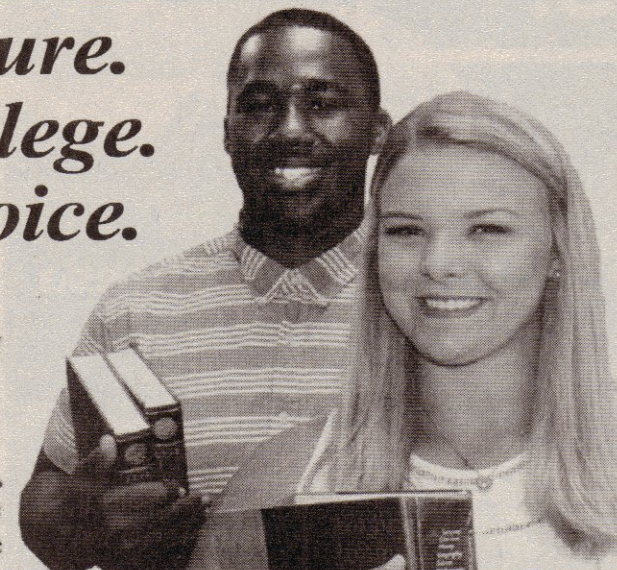
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# Obituaries

Death notices updated regularly on our website at [www.elba-clipper.com](http://www.elba-clipper.com)

### JOYCE DAVIS WATSON

Mrs. Joyce Davis Watson, age 76, of Elba, Ala., died Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2018, at her residence.

Funeral services were held Nov. 23, 2018 at New Haven Baptist Church with Brother Shane Thompson and Dr. Sam Self officiating. Sorrells Funeral Home and Crematory of Enterprise directed.

Joyce was born January 23, 1942, in Elba, Ala. She was a member of New Haven Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Louie Watson; parents, Clarence and Annie Mae Davis; and a son, Daniel Watson.

Survivors include two sons: John Watson, Elba Jeff Watson (Betsy), Samson; three grandchildren: Jesse Watson (Erika), Michael Watson (fiancée, Ally), and Caleb Watson.

### CHRISTINA LYNN GAFFORD SILVERS

Ms. Christina Lynn Gafford Silvers, age 41, a resident of Biloxi, Miss., died Wednesday, Nov. 21,



2018, at Canon Hospice in Biloxi.

Graveside services were held Nov. 25, 2018 at the Pine Level Community Cemetery with Rev. Scott Donaldson officiating. Burial followed in the Pine Level Community Cemetery under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home of Elba, Ala.

Survivors include her mother: Catherine Ellen Carpenter, and stepfather: David La Vaughn Carpenter, both of Brantley, Ala.; father: Jimmy Earl Gafford; daughter: Jaiden Silvers; son: Peyton Gafford; a sister: Catherine Isabel Carpenter, Troy, Ala.; and a brother: Thomas Ethan Carpenter, Norfolk, Va.

### BOBBY CARNLEY

Mr. Bobby Carnley, age 63, a resident of Jack, Ala., died Sunday, Nov. 25, 2018, at his home.



Funeral services were held Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba, Ala., at 11 a.m., with Jack Bradley officiating. Burial followed in the Wise

Mill Assembly of God Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing. The family requested in lieu of flowers that memorials be made to the Alabama Kidney Foundation, c/o 441 High Street, Montgomery, AL 36104, in his memory.

Mr. Carnley was preceded in death by his parents Sallie Mae and Ossie Lee Carnley, along with a sister Betsy Cripple, and a brother Tommy Carnley.

Survivors include his wife: Nelda Carnley, daughter: Dana (James) Cole, sons: Robert Carnley (Erica Sanders), and Eric (Emily) Carnley, all of Jack; his sisters: Jody Millette, Elba, Melissa Jones, Andalusia, Ala., and Lynda Brookerd, Panama City, Fla.; brothers: Steve Carnley, Eufaula, Ala., Mike Carnley, Roetan, Ala., and Chris Carnley, Jack; 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

### MARGARET DUNCAN SMITH

Mrs. Margaret Duncan Smith, age 72, a resident of Elba, Ala., died Saturday, Nov. 24, 2018, at Southeast Health in Dothan, Ala.

Funeral services were held Monday, Nov. 26, 2018 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Mike Medley officiating. Burial followed in the Pine Level Community Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include her husband: Hollis Smith, Elba; daughters: Vickie Cole, Elba, Evonne (Kenneth) Jones, Chancellor, Ala., Theresa (David) Carr and Heather Jones, both Elba; granddaughters: Meagan Jones and LaShea Washam, both of Elba; grandsons: Trenton Carr, Travis Carr, Romelleo Jones, and Michael Jones, all of Elba, Kenny Jones, Chancellor; great-grandsons: Lucas Jones, Chancellor, and Logan Miranda, Enterprise,

Ala.; great-granddaughter: Kali Carr, Elba; her sisters: Carolyn (Steve) Hudson and Louise (Randolph) Beck, both of Elba, and Shirley (Dorman) Richards, Babbie, Ala.

### MARY ALICE LEE

Mrs. Mary Alice Lee, age 94, of Elba, Ala., died Sunday, Nov. 25, 2018, at Taylor Mill Oaks Assisted Living in Elba.



Longevity being a staple in Mrs. Lee's life, she lived for 94 years and was married to the love of her life for 72 years. She was employed by Elba Exchange Bank for 43 years.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 11 a.m., from Elba United Methodist Church with Minister Steve Reneau and Minister Stanley Carter officiating. Burial services followed in the Evergreen Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing. The Lee family requested that in lieu of flowers contributions be made to Elba United Methodist Church or Evergreen Cemetery Fund.

Mrs. Lee was preceded in death by her husband - John Glen Lee, father - Odie Dyess, mother - Lena Cook Dyess, daughter - Mary June Lee, special granddaughter - Tesha Lee, and brothers - Wilburn Joseph "Pete" Dyess, James Robert "Tweet" Dyess, and Wilson "Percy" Dyess.

Survivors include her daughter: Judy L. (John) Hughes, Montgomery, Ala.; son: Joe G. Lee, Elba; granddaughters: Katherine (Josh) Jackson, and Emily (Andy) Lawton, both of Atlanta, Ga., and Cortlin (Matthew) Bond, Birmingham, Ala.; brothers: Marlin (Lela Ann) Dyess, Montgomery, Tom (Elizabeth) Dyess, Elba; and sister-in-law: Clara Ann Dyess, Elba.

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Phone: (334) 897-3431  
Website: [insuranceinsoutheast.com](http://insuranceinsoutheast.com)  
Email: [RKYoung4@aol.com](mailto:RKYoung4@aol.com)



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is noon on Tuesday of the week in which the ad is to appear. We reserve the right to edit or refuse any ad

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11/29-2t-chg.

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tfc

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### SALE

#### CLEARANCE ITEMS

Sofa \$30  
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#### PERRY STORE

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Mon - Sat 10:00 to 5:00  
334-726-1204

### YARD SALE

**YARD SALE** this Saturday, December 1, 2018, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at 231 Court Avenue in the Elba Theatre Building. Rain or Shine!

11/29-chg.

### ESTATE SALE

**ESTATE SALE** Friday, November 30th and Saturday, December 1st from 8 a.m. until dark. 110 Hickman Avenue, Elba. Lots of stuff, including furniture, antiques, knick-knacks, tools, collectables, etc.

11/29-pd

### HELP WANTED

**Young World of Learning,** 897-2755, want/need clean trustworthy person 4 to 6 hours per day. Must be willing to do background check.

8/23/tfc



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## PUBLIC NOTICES:

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for no extra charge

#### LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Chapter 1, Title 39, Code of Alabama, 1975, notice is hereby given that Triple J Construction, LLC, Contractor, has completed the Contract for the City of Elba, TAPAA-TA16(925) Downtown Streetscape Improvements, and have made request for final settlement of said Contract. This notice will appear for four consecutive weeks beginning on November 15, 2018 and ending on December 06, 2018. All persons having any claim for labor, materials, or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify CDG Engineers & Assoc., Inc. 1830 Hartford Hwy. Dothan, AL 36333.

11/15,22,29-12/6 - chg

#### INVITATION TO BID INFORMATION FOR BIDDERS CITY OF ELBA, AL

**Receipt and Opening of Bids:** The City of Elba (herein called the "Owner"), invites bids on the Modification/Repairs of the Elba Recreation Center "Scope of Proposal" to be provided to all prospective BIDDERS. Bids will be received by the Owner in the Council Chambers located in the Elba City Hall, 200 Buford Street, Elba, AL 36323 until **5 o'clock PM, CST, on Friday, November 30, 2018.** Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud by the "Owner" in the Council Chambers located in the Elba City Hall, 200 Buford Street, Elba, AL 36323 at **10 o'clock AM, CST, on Monday, December 10, 2018.**

The envelopes containing the bids must be sealed, addressed to the City of Elba, 200 Buford Street, Elba, AL 36323 and designated as **SEALED BID for Roof Restoration - Elba Recreation Center.**

#### Preparation of Bid:

Each bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope bearing on the outside the name of the bidder, his/her address, and the name of the project for which the bid is submitted. All bidders must be licensed under the provisions of State Licensing Board for General Contractors, Title 24, Chapter 8, Code of Alabama, and must show evidence of license before

bidding or bid will not be received or considered by the owner; the bidder shall show such evidence by clearly displaying his/her license number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing the bid. Bids shall contain a clear description of all construction equipment, methods, and material intended for use on the project.

A bid package may be picked-up from Elba City Hall, 200 Buford Street, Elba, AL 36323 between the hours of 8 o'clock AM and 5 o'clock PM. 11/15, 22 & 29-chg.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

Probate Court Case No. PC 2018-076

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF PAMELA JAN CLEMENTS, DECEASED.

#### NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018, by the Honorable Steve Blair, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ David Clements  
David Clements  
11/15,22&29-pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KATHY LEE DAVIS, Deceased.

CASE NO: PC-2018-079

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that letters of Administration having been granted to Wilber O'Neal Davis, as Administrator of the Estate of Kathy Lee Davis, deceased, on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018, by Steve Blair, Judge of Probate for Coffee County, Alabama. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the

said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.  
/s/ Steve E. Blair  
Steve Blair  
Judge of Probate  
11/15,22&29-pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF NICHOLAS ROBERTSON Deceased

CASE NO: PR2018-216

BRENDA ROBERTSON ADMINISTRATRIX

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Brenda Robertson, Administratrix of the Estate of Nicholas Robertson, deceased, on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018, by the Honorable Steve Blair, Judge of Probate.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the Estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.  
/s/ Brenda Robertson  
Brenda Robertson  
Administratrix of the Estate of Nicholas Robertson, deceased  
11-22,29-12-6-chg

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OR ADMINISTRATOR

ESTATE OF JOSEPH M. GUERRERO, Deceased

PROBATE COURT

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned the 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018, by the Hon. Steven E. Blair, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Mark Vaughan,  
Personal Representative  
11/22,29&12/6-pd

### HEALTH/ BEAUTY

**A PLACE** For Mom has helped over a million families find senior living. Our trusted, local advisors help find solutions to your unique needs at no cost to you. Call 1-855-398-9908.

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### - VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT - Coffee County Maintenance Department Plumbing & Electrical Maintenance Technician for Coffee County

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to: perform a variety of skilled plumbing and electrical repairs and maintenance. Repairs range from small repairs to complete remodeling. Painting, carpentry, sheetrock repair, janitorial, grounds maintenance, roofing repair, and installation. Experience: Minimum one-year experience required. Qualifications: Valid Driver's License. Fringe Benefits: Paid Vacation, Sick Leave, Health Insurance, Holidays, and State Retirement. Salary Starting from \$13.15 to \$16.02 based on experience.

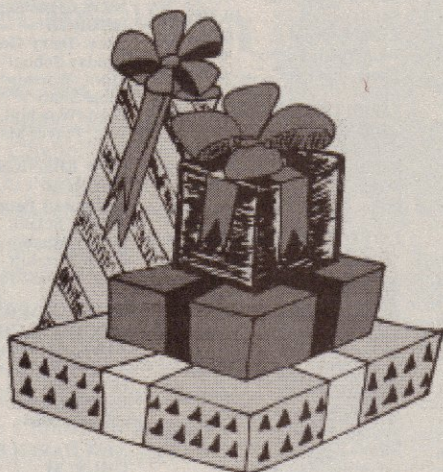
Closing Date: November 30, 2018.

Please apply online at [www.coffeecounty.us](http://www.coffeecounty.us)

Coffee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## HABITAT

(Continued from Page ONE)

part in helping making the construction of her new home a reality.

"I want to thank everyone for making this possible," she said. "Without all the volunteers, the Lord and my family and friends providing encouragement, this would not have been possible."

Goolsby said Coffee County Habitat for Humanity had the funds to build another home in Elba soon, and she looked forward to getting that project started as well in the near future.



Coffee County Habitat for Humanity board member Charlene Goolsby (right) is shown reading from the Bible that was presented to home recipient Benita Kay Smith (left) during the home dedication ceremony held Sunday afternoon, Nov. 25, for Smith. Scripture is a large part of a Habitat for Humanity program, and Sunday was no different. Upon presenting the Bible to Smith, she was told, "May the words of this Bible guide you through your endeavors."



ELBA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECENTLY CROWNED ITS KING AND QUEEN FOR THE FALL FESTIVAL. The Queen was Kaden Forbes and the King was Zander Maddox. The two reigned over the fall festival activities, and were able to participate in all activities at no charge that night.

### AA~NA MEETING

sponsored by the Elba Ministerial Association is held each Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Elba Church of Christ, located at 715 N. Troy Hwy., Elba. Get free coffee & support. For more information, call 334-494-3353 or 334-897-2057.

### LBWCC offering quick start photography

LBW Community College in Andalusia is offering a seven week "Quick Start Photography" course with instructor Robert Evers, Tuesdays, 6 – 8 p.m., Jan. 8 – Feb. 19, 2019. Classes will be held in the Learning Resource Center in classroom L133 on the Andalusia Campus.

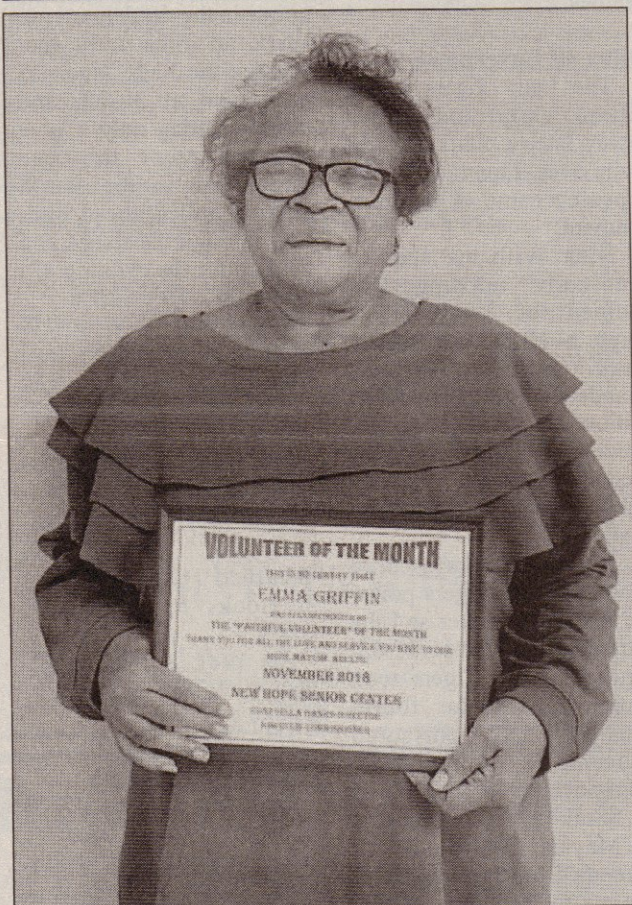
Learn the basic principles of photography and unlock the camera's potential to create great photographs. In this course students will learn to operate their camera in manual mode, learn

about smartphone cameras, macro/micro, quality of light, the exposure triangle, color vs black and white, reducing camera shake and noise, composition, photo editing, resolution, and much, much more.

Space is limited. There is a fee. Registration deadline is December 20, 2018.

Participants may register in person in the Student Services office Monday – Thursday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. or Friday, 8 a.m. – Noon. For more information call (334) 881-2231.

### NEW HOPE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER "VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH"



MRS. EMMA GRIFFIN IS 68-YEARS-OLD! She is the mother of two daughters and grandmother of five grandchildren. She has been a member of the New Hope Senior Center for four years, and she volunteers to deliver the Troy Messenger every week. Emma is a member of Whitewater Baptist Church where she serves as Matron President. Her hobbies include playing bingo at the center and reading. Congrats to Mrs. Emma Griffin on being selected the New Hope Senior Center "Volunteer of the Month!"

### DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS (DAV) WIREGRASS CHAPTER 99

will be serving a Pancake Breakfast, prior to the New Brockton Christmas Parade, Saturday, Dec. 1, from 7-11 a.m., at the New Brockton Town Hall, 706 East McKinnon St, New Brockton. All net proceeds will provide service funds for active duty, veterans, family members, in the upcoming year. There is a \$5 donation per breakfast with beverage, seating available or to go. For information contact, Chuck Lobdell at (334) 718-5705



Elba Clipper Sports Reporter Greg Brunson was captured by his wife, Janet, making pictures at the final Brantley football game of the season. Janet typically takes the photos while Greg keeps stats for the games, but she said it got a little too cold for her that evening, so, Greg took the camera and handled it all to allow her to huddle by the fence for warmth. She said he is the best!

### ADPH recommends flu shots for those 6 months of age and older

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) encourages annual influenza vaccination of all persons 6 months of age and older as the best way to prevent influenza and its potentially serious complications.

Among its many benefits are reducing the risk of flu illness, doctors' visits, hospitalization and even death.

For the upcoming 2018-2019 influenza season, there is updated flu vaccine and many vaccine options, including nasal spray vaccine. Flu circulates year round and peak activity usually occurs between December and February, but could start earlier or extend later.

In the 2017-2018 flu season, there was widespread activity for three months, which was longer than

usual.

As of October 27, 2018, a total of 185 pediatric deaths for the 2017-2018 season have been reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with approximately 80 percent of these deaths occurring in children who did not receive a flu shot for the season.

Precautions are as follows:

- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.
- If you are sick with flu-like illness, stay home for at least 24 hours after fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Fever should be gone for 24 hours without the use of a fever-reducing

medicine.)

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. After using a tissue, throw it in the trash and wash your hands.

- Wash your hands often <<https://www.cdc.gov/han> > with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.

- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs like flu.

Contact your private physician or your local county health department for a flu clinic schedule. For more information, visit <http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/immunization/flu-and-pneu-vaccines.html>,

or contact the ADPH Immunization Division at (334) 206-5023 or toll free at 800-469-4599. Flu shots may also be available at pharmacies.

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The Elba  
Clipper

### Alabama Extension now offers Farming Basics course online

More people than ever are interested in giving farming a try.

In the past, people turned to farming family members for help. Today, most people are generations removed from farming.

To help budding farmers get started, Alabama Extension now offers a free online course, Farming Basics.

Launched Sept. 10, the course addresses critical topics in agriculture.

Alabama Extension director Gary Lemme calls the course a groundbreaking digital effort.

"Anyone who is considering farming but has little to no experience will reap rewards by completing the course," says Lemme. He adds that Farming Basics is a valuable tool for experienced farm owners as well.

"Established producers can use the course as a refresher in best practices," says Lemme. "Additionally, they can use it to train new employees."

Jewell and Russell Bean of S & B Farm in Barbour County agree the course is exactly what beginning farmers need.

"Farming Basics is filled with good information," Russell Bean says. "We recommend it as a resource not only for beginning farmers but seasoned producers as well."

Farming Basics' five chapters feature video presentations and additional resources which enhance the course's content depth. A short quiz at the end of each chapter offers participants the opportunity to review and reinforce content concepts. The course takes about two hours to complete. Upon completion, participants receive a certificate.

Dr. Ayanava Majumdar, Farming Basics project leader, says more than 200 people have already pre-registered for the course.

"Farming is challenging for experienced farmers, and it can be overwhelming to people new to it," says Majumdar. "Our goal with Farming Basics is to help new producers develop knowledge and critical skills, enabling them to reduce mistakes and achieve profitability more rapidly."

The course covers farm management and marketing, pesticide safety, food safety, basic crop production and pest management. Find the course at <https://aces.catalog.auburn.edu/>.

Farming Basics follows the proven model of Beef Basics, Alabama Extension's first online agriculture course.

Lemme says these courses serve as the foundation of the organization's growing commitment to online learning.

"Because of programs like this, we are becoming a nationally recognized leader in digital learning."

This course is part of Alabama Extension's overarching Beginning Farmer program, a collaborative effort of a wide range of institutions, producer organizations and nonprofit agencies. The Alabama Beginning Farmer Program is funded by a grant from the USDA Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Development Program.

Currently, the Beginning Farmer program provides intense on-farm guidance to more than 60 beginning farmers, including military veterans, women and socially disabled individuals. The advisory service has an 85 percent adoption rate and has increased yields by improving crop quality and reducing insecticide use with pest prevention.

Alabama Extension operates as the primary outreach organization for the land-grant functions of Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities.

### Join the Elba Chamber of Commerce

Call Sandy Bynum at  
(334) 897-3125 or email:  
[elbachamber@troycable.net](mailto:elbachamber@troycable.net)

### Clark Cinemas

ENTERPRISE 100 New Centre Drive  
ANDALUSIA 101 Court Square

INFO 347-2531

Movies, Times and Tickets all available at  
[www.clarkcinemas.com](http://www.clarkcinemas.com)

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# SPORTS

## Views From The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

*The Christmas tree and decorations went up* over the weekend at the Mularz house and our grandson Lawson helped put the balls on the tree and even helped unpack some of the decorations from the closets. He was a little disappointed that by the end of the day there were still no presents under the tree, but I am sure his Nanny will solve that problem very soon!

### For what it is worth....

\*\*\* *The Elba Lady Tigers got a head start* on the basketball season last week at a tourney in Straughn and won two games before falling in the finals. The Lady Tigers claimed an impressive opening round win over Luverne and then upset Straughn to reach the finals, but found out it's hard to defeat a good team with three starters on the bench due to fouls and lost in the closing seconds to Brantley, in the finals. Coach Hammonds said after the tournament that once his team's shots start falling it will be a force to reckon with during the regular season, and while that is true, the Lady Tigers must also improve from the foul line as they hit only 29 of 71 shots from the line. The style of play Elba runs gets it to the line, but when you miss 42 free throws in three games, it makes little difference. The loss in the finals was disappointing, but the two wins were over good teams and may just spark the Lady Tigers to a solid season.

\*\*\* *The third round of the state football playoffs* is in the books and as always there were a number of surprises. In 7A, Central had to rally in the closing seconds to get by Robert E. Lee 34-27 and Thompson knocked off Hoover 31-28, while in 6A Spanish Fort was upset by Wetumpka 21-17, in 5A unbeaten Etowah lost to Central Clay 35-13, in 4A Andalusia won its rematch against Hillcrest 28-21, in 3A Flomaton surprised Pike County 12-10, in 2A Luverne hammered Leroy 26-7, and in 1A Maplesville knocked off defending 2A state champ Lanett 29-6.

\*\*\* *In what should no longer be called the 'Iron Bowl,'* Alabama broke loose in the third quarter and never looked back to clobber Auburn 52-21. The Crimson Tide got off to a slow start in the game and got fooled by a couple of Gus's trick plays, but once Tua got on track there was little anyone in white could do as the Tide rolled. A few of my own tidbits from the game were that (1) If Stidham goes pro maybe he can play for the new team from Birmingham in the Vince McMahon League, (2) Gus proved for once and for all that he is over his head as an SEC head coach and whoever signed the contract to pay him \$49 million should be fired, (3) Tua has no conscience and fears no throw, and (4) the scary thing about Alabama is that it should be even better next season.

\*\*\* *Ye Ole Polish Prognosticator dropped by* over the weekend and was still a little tired after staying up late to watch Texas A & M's seven-overtime win over LSU. The local guesspert hit only 5 of 13 playoff picks last week to move his season totals to 319-83, but declared he will keep picking until they hand out the blue maps and left this week's fearless forecast. Here goes....Wetumpka 24 Saraland 17, Pinson Valley 35 Clay-Chalkville 28, Vigor 28 Greenville 6, Mortimer Jordan 17 Central Clay 14, UMS-Wright 24 Andalusia 10, Oneonta 21 Hokes Bluff 20, Providence Christian 21 Flomaton 14, Randolph County 14 Piedmont 12, Luverne 29 Highland Home 27, Fyffe 35 Aliceville 21, Maplesville 28 Linden 14, Mars Hill 20 Pickens County 13.

## State prep football playoffs reach semifinal round

MONTGOMERY – Thompson (12-1) and Central-Phenix City (13-0) each posted dramatic last-minute wins Friday night in the AHSAA Class 7A football playoff semifinals to advance to the 2018 Super 7 State Championships at Auburn Dec. 5.

The other six classes played quarterfinal rounds with four teams in each class advancing to the semifinals. All games will be played at home sites on Friday night, Nov. 30 with 7 p.m. kickoffs.

Among the 24 schools advancing to this week's other semifinal games are 12 No. 1 seeds, 10 No. 2 seeds, one No. 3 seed (Class 4A Andalusia (9-4) and one No. 4 seed (Class 4A Oneonta (10-3)).

Unbeaten teams advancing to round 4, by class, include: (Class 1A) Linden (12-0); (Class 2A) Fyffe (13-0); and (Class 4A) UMS-Wright.

**AHSAA State Football Playoffs Semifinal Pairings**  
**CLASS 1A**  
Maplesville (11-1) at

Linden (12-0)  
Pickens County (9-4) at Mars Hill Bible (12-1),

**Florence**  
**CLASS 2A**  
Luverne (12-1) at Highland Home (12-1)  
Aliceville (11-2) at Fyffe (13-0)

**CLASS 3A**  
Providence Christian (12-1) at Flomaton (10-3)  
Randolph County (12-1) at Piedmont (11-2)

**CLASS 4A**  
Andalusia (9-4) at UMS-Wright (12-0), **Mobile**  
Oneonta (10-3) at Deshler (8-5), **Tuscumbia**  
**CLASS 5A**  
Vigor (12-1) at Greenville (11-2)

Central-Clay County (10-3) at Mortimer Jordan (12-1), **Kimberly**  
**CLASS 6A**  
Saraland (12-1) at Wetumpka (11-2)  
Clay-Chalkville (12-1) at Pinson Valley (11-1), **RAYCOM Game of the Week**  
**CLASS 7A**  
(Finals, Dec. 5, Jordan-Hare Stadium, Auburn)  
Central-Phenix City (13-0) vs. Thompson (12-1)

## At Straughn tournament

## Lady Tigers claim two early-season wins

The Elba Lady Tigers tipped off the basketball season last week at the Straughn Thanksgiving Tournament and claimed wins over Luverne 49-38 and Straughn 45-44 before falling to Brantley 55-53 in the finals to bring home runner-up honors in the seven-team event.

"It was a good start to the season," stated Elba coach Shaun Hammonds. "I hate we didn't bring home the championship trophy, but we had two good wins and it should fire the girls up for the regular season. We didn't shoot the ball real well from the floor or the free throw line, but we hustled on both ends of the court and let everyone know we are going to play hard and be aggressive. We got hurt with fouls in the final game and had three starters foul out. So, that is another area we will need to work on, because we need our best on the floor and not on the bench. I think the girls now understand what we are going to do and as we practice and gain experience we should improve and develop into a pretty good ball club."

Following are highlights of all three tournament games:

### Elba 49 Luverne 38

The Lady Tigers pulled ahead early and pulled away late to claim a 49-38 win over Luverne, in the opening game of the tournament.

Nina Williams sparked an early uprising that helped the Lady Tigers grab a 12-8 first quarter lead, while Breanna Sanders drained a 3-pointer and A'Maysia Whitfield added four points in the second stanza as Elba carried a 25-22 lead in at the half.

Freeda Hooks scored half the Lady Tigers points in the third quarter as Elba stretched its lead to 37-33, and the Lady Tigers took command in the fourth quarter and outscored Luverne 12-5 to pull away and post the 49-38 win.

Sandra Lindsey, A'Maysia Whitfield and Freeda Hooks all scored 9 points to lead Elba, which hit only 11 of 25 shots from the free-throw line, while Johnson scored 12 points to lead Luverne.

**Elba (49):** N. Williams 7, Gray 1, Lindsey 9, Whitfield 9, M. Williams 5, Hooks 9, Sanders 3, Baker 4.

**Luverne (38):** Williams 7, Thomas 5, Means 2, Burnette 2, Johnson 12.

## High School BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

### Thursday, Nov. 29

Zion Chapel at Kinston  
Ariton at Brantley  
Red Level at Samson  
Georgiana at T.R. Miller  
Rehobeth at Geneva

### Friday, Nov. 30

Kinston at Red Level  
Geneva at Geneva County  
Wicksburg at Zion Chapel  
Dale County at Samson  
Enterprise at Carroll

### Monday, Dec. 3

Daleville at Samson  
Georgiana at Straughn

### Tuesday, Dec. 4

Elba at New Brockton  
Kinston at Pleasant Home  
Samson at Florala  
Opp at Brantley  
Carroll at Pike County  
Enterprise at Ch. Henderson



ELBA LADY TIGERS hold runner-up trophy after their second place finish at last week's Straughn Thanksgiving Tournament.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

### Elba 45 Straughn 44

The Lady Tigers staged a furious second half rally to surprise Straughn 45-44, in second round action.

Straughn slipped ahead 13-12 in the opening stanza, and despite 10 first half points from Elba's A'Maysia Whitfield, the Lady Tigers went in at the half trailing 26-22. Sandra Lindsey poured in six points in the third quarter to spark an Elba rally that enabled the Lady Tigers to pull even at 32-32, and despite hitting only 1 of 9 attempts from the free throw line in the fourth quarter, pulled ahead midway through the stanza and held on for the exciting 45-44 win.

A'Maysia Whitfield scored 16 points to lead Elba, while Sandra Lindsey, and Jaylyn Baker added 7 points apiece. Kelley scored 19 points to lead Straughn.

**Elba (45):** J. Gray 2, M. Gray 1, Lindsey 7, Whitfield 16, M. Williams 3, Hooks 5, Sanders 4, Baker 7.

**Straughn (44):** K. Kelley 12, Hall 1, Wilson 3, Hicks 8, Kelley 19.

### Brantley 55 Elba 53

The Lady Tigers watched a 5-point fourth quarter lead evaporate after losing three starters to fouls in a disappointing 55-53 loss to Brantley, in the tournament finals.

The two area rivals swapped baskets in the opening stanza and were tied at 10-10 after eight minutes of action. However, Brantley's Gabby Perkins poured in 11 points in the second



Elba Lady Tiger Sandra Lindsey drives to the basket in last week's championship game clash against Brantley.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

quarter to put the Lady Bulldogs on top at the half 27-24. Elba's A'Maysia Whitfield and Freeda Hooks sparked a Lady Tigers rally that put Elba back on top 41-36 heading into the final stanza, and the Lady Tigers remained on top until the closing minute as Brantley scored late to claim the win, and the tourney title, with the 55-53 victory.

A'Maysia Whitfield

scored 13 points to lead Elba, while Sandra Lindsey added 9 and Nina Williams scored 8. Gabby Perkins scored 22 points and Olivia Jones added 17 to lead Brantley.

**B'ley (55):** Jones 17, Wilcox 2, Bush 8, Person 6, Perkins 22.

**Elba (53):** J. Gray 4, N. Williams 8, Lindsey 9, Whitfield 13, M. Williams 4, Hooks 5, Sanders 6, Baker 4.



BRANTLEY LADY BULLDOGS WITH TOURNEY CROWN

## Brantley wins tournament title

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs competed in the Straughn Thanksgiving Tournament last week and rolled to three straight wins to take home the tourney

title. The Lady Bulldogs tipped off the seven-team tournament against Flomaton and coasted in with a 58-39 win. Gabby Perkins scored 15 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Olivia Jones added 14 points and Cassidy Wilcox scored 12.

The Lady Bulldogs met Andalusia in the semifinals

and rolled to a solid 45-28 win. Cassidy Wilcox and Emory Bush both scored 12 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs.

The Lady Bulldogs battled area-rival Elba in the tournament finals and rallied late to claim a 55-53 win. Gabby Perkins scored 22 points and grabbed 15 rebounds to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Olivia Jones added 17 points.

## Bob Bush, DVM

Veterinary Express of South Alabama  
Small Animal Medicine & Surgery  
334-343-0408 • 582-2255 (Call)  
Intersection of Claxton Ave & Simmons St  
(across from the Elba Service Center)  
Dec. 12 & Dec. 26 Hours: 10 am - 2 pm

## NOTICE:

COFFEE COUNTY LAKE WILL  
OPEN ONLY ON WEEKENDS IN  
DECEMBER & JANUARY



# Coffee County Farm City committee hands out annual awards at banquet

The Coffee County Farm City Committee handed out several awards Thursday evening, Nov. 15, during the annual Farm-City Banquet.

Earlier in the month, a handful of the award winners attended a press conference to discuss the awards while other award winners simply presented a bio statement for media. The Farm City awards are designed to honor the "best" in farm and industry in the county.

Nine awards were presented this year, including: Beef Award, Conservation Award, Poultry Award, Row Crop Award, Forestry Award, Young Farmer Award, Industry Award, Business of Year Award, and Farm of Distinction.

Receiving awards, but not in attendance for press conference, were:

• **Outstanding Conservation – Reynolds Farm**

Reynolds Farm is owned and operated by Wesley Reynolds and his father, Johnny Reynolds. The have a diverse agricultural operation consisting of 550 acres of cotton, 100 acres

of peanuts, 150 acres of hay, and 200 acres of pastureland, which holds 170 heads of brood cows. They also run 140 head of stocker calves each year.

They plant cover crops each year to control erosion, increase organic matter, and provide winter grazing for livestock. Cotton and peanuts are strip till planted into these cover crops with minimum soil disturbance. The pastureland has been extensively cross fence to implement rotational grazing with each paddock having fresh water available. All streams also have been fenced out to protect water quality.

• **Forestry Award – Mark Vaughan**

Mark Vaughan is the owner of Whitewater Preserve, a registered game preserve located in northern Coffee County. The property is 424 acres. It consists of 120 acres of 11-year-old loblolly pine plantation, 70 acres of 8-year-old longleaf pine plantation, and remaining acreage of mixed hardwoods. Also on the property is a recreational fish pond. Pine

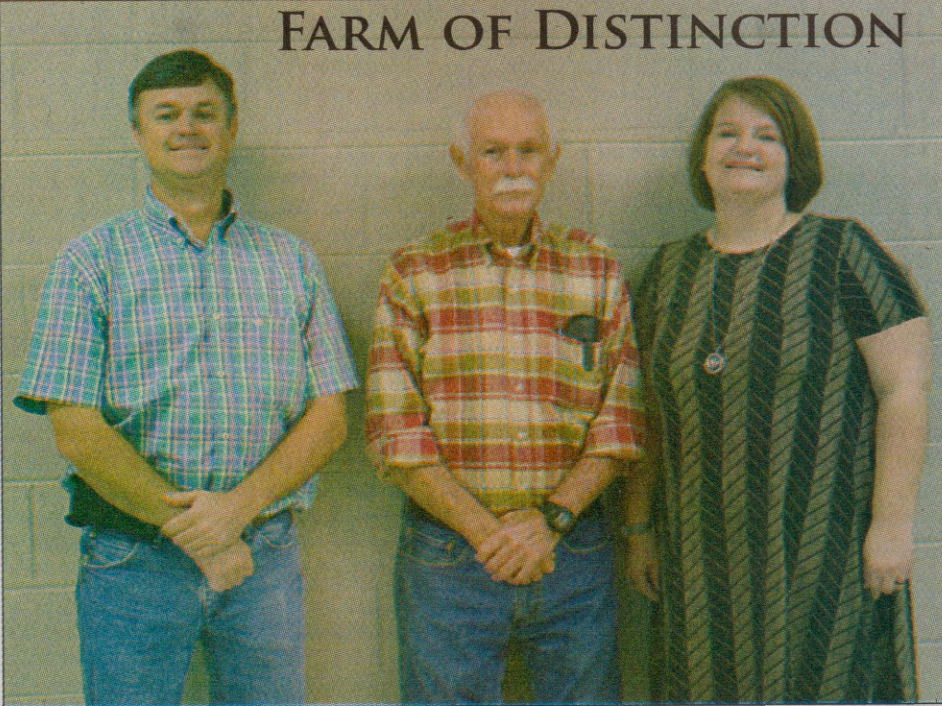
plantations on the property are managed for timber production, and the property is managed for wildlife through the use of prescribed fire and wildlife plantings. A grove of fruit trees has been planted and a stand of cherrybark and white oaks for hard mast production. Mark, and wife Candace, have managed the property for 22 years. It is a part of the America Tree Farm System.

• **Industry Award – Ben E. Keith Foods**

For more than a century, Ben E. Keith Foods has been a leader in fine food and premium beverage distribution, with a goal to provide excellent customer service to all of their partners. Established in Fort Worth, Texas in 1906, Ben E. Keith Foods is the nation's eighth largest broad line foodservice distributor and operates today with eight divisions shipping to fourteen states throughout the country. In Oct. 2016, Ben E. Keith Foods acquired Kelley Foods of Alabama expanding the food division footprint to a total of 14 states. The acquisition included all assets of Kelley Foods including the Elba, Ala. distribution center and manufacturing division, which produces quality sausages and hams, as well as other custom products under the Kelley Foods name. The distribution division has been named Ben E. Keith Foods – Southeast Division, while manufacturing operations remain Kelley Foods, a division of Ben E. Keith Foods.

• **Business of the Year – Sessions Peanut Company**

Sessions has been in business for over 101 years. Sessions Peanut



**2018 Farm of Distinction – 4W Farms (Daron, Matt and Wayne Warren)...**Wayne, Daron and Matt Warren are second and third generation farmers in Coffee County. Wayne's father, Luke Warren, took over the farm in 1927 when he was 14-years-old after his father died. Wayne later joined the farming efforts with is dad. When Wayne's sons, Daron and Matt, came along it was only natural for them to continue the family legacy. This farm is now known as 4W Farms. The farm consists of beef cattle, hay and timber. The home place consists of 250 acres of pasture and timber with an additional 200 acres of leased land for pasture and hay production. Along with farming, Daron and Matt also are employed with Pilgrims of Enterprise. When asked about being chosen as the 2018 Farm of Distinction for Coffee County, Daron said, "It is very special to be recognized." He said the family's hard work and dedication in working with hay and cows is what got them where they are today. Daron and Wayne are pictured above with Cindy Kinney (right), the 2018 Farm-City committee chairman.

Company is a family business that supports its community in a multitude of ways. In addition to the direct economic impact this business provides in sales and jobs, it also serves the community indirectly through participation in local events and service.

**Congrats to all the Coffee County Farm City Award winners!**



**2018 Beef Award – Grace Hill Farm...**Grace Hill Farm was established in the Goodman Community in 2013 when Hank and Dianne Gaines and their daughters Kelly and Ginger moved to Coffee County from Central Alabama. Grace Hill Farm is a commercial cow/calf, Angus-Simmental beef cattle operation with 280 mama cows. They utilize a program of synchronized A.I. breeding with their replacement heifers. Bulls are put in with the remainder of the herd for 75 days. Fall calving season allows calves to stay on the mamas until the following July when they are weaned for 60 days. Calves are marketed each year through the Producers Feeder Calf Sale. Having only been in the area for about five years now, Hank said, "We are very honored to be considered for this award. It is very humbling." He and Dianne are pictured above with Cindy Kinney (right), the 2018 Farm-City committee chairman.

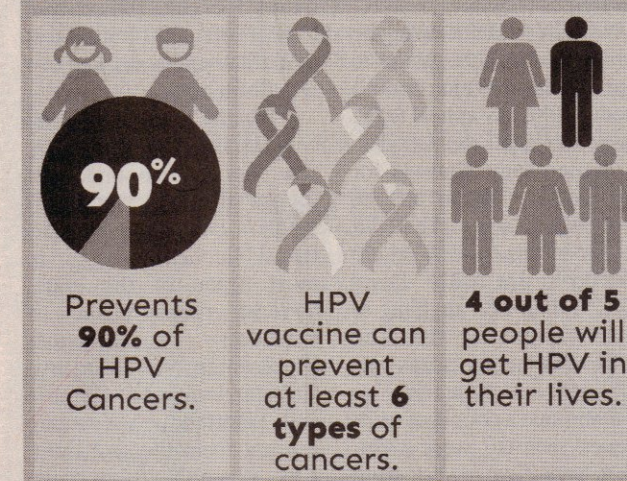


**2018 Outstanding Young Farmer – Ginger Gaines...**Ginger is the daughter of Hank and Dianne Gaines of the Goodman Community. She works as the cattle manager for Grace Hill Farm, where her family raises Angus/Simmental cattle. Ginger said she is blessed to be able to work alongside her family, and she has found the Coffee County community to be welcoming, kind, generous and helpful. "God has been more than gracious to me," she said. "It is very humbling and an honor to be chosen for this award. Ginger is pictured above with Cindy Kinney (right), the 2018 Farm-City committee chairman.



**2018 Poultry Award – Larry Reeves...**Larry Reeves is a lifetime resident of Coffee County, living in the Basin Community, with his wife, Cindy, and daughter, Amanda. Together, they operate a poultry farm. He built his first 36' x 300' poultry houses in 1981 and grew for ConAgra. In Feb. 2017, he built four 66' x 600' houses for Pilgrims Pride. When asked about winning this year's poultry award, Larry said, "It is an honor to represent Coffee County and to be chosen for this award." Larry and Cindy Reeves are pictured above with Cindy Kinney (right), the 2018 Farm-City committee chairman.

## HPV VACCINE FACTS:



**HPV VACCINE IS CANCER PREVENTION!** [alabamapublichealth.gov/imm](http://alabamapublichealth.gov/imm) IMMUNIZATION DIVISION

**2018 Row Crop Award – Joey Powell (Powell Farms)...**Powell Farms is a third generation farm located in the Mt. Pleasant Community. Joey's grandfather purchased the farm in 1943 after his farm in Dale County was purchased by what is now known as Fort Rucker. Joey grew his first crop in 1983 on a total of 100 acres. Over the last 35 years, Powell Farms has grown into a diversified farm of more than 1,700 acres. Today, Powell Farms will harvest more than 1,300 acres of row crops including 750 acres of cotton and 575 acres of peanuts. In receiving the award, Joey said, "It is an honor to be recognized by our peers." He and his wife, Lisa, are pictured above with Cindy Kinney (right), the 2018 Farm-City committee chairman.

# WE'RE RAISING THE STEAKS.

## Steak & Cheese

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### ON NEW SUNFLOWER CRUNCH BREAD

Limited time only at participating restaurants.



Elba ready to ‘Kickoff Christmas’ with events Saturday and Monday

Christmas kicks off in Elba this week-end when the First Annual Cruisin’ Christmas Car Show and Christmas Crafts Bazaar highlight events planned around the square on Saturday, Dec. 1st.

The Car Show will begin at 12 noon and continue until 4 p.m. on the downtown square in Elba while the Crafts Bazaar will be held inside the Just Folk Coffeehouse building. The crafts bazaar will be from 12 noon until 5 p.m.

From 1-3 p.m. Saturday afternoon, Elba Clipper editor Linda Hodge will be set up on the old Clements lot on the square to take “Christmas in Elba” photos for any and all interested. A \$5 fee gets a 5x7 photo (additional prints available for \$3 each). These photos will be made at the official Elba Christmas tree, which will be lit for the season Saturday evening during a special ceremony.

The SEC Championship Game will be available for viewing for football fanatics at the Elba Theatre. The game is set to begin at 3 p.m. Saturday.

Beginning at 5 p.m. Saturday evening, Christmas caroling will begin as the city prepares for the official lighting of the Christmas tree, which will take place at approximately 5:30 p.m. There will be sing-along carols and special performances.

This all leads to Elba Christmas Parade, which will be Monday, Dec. 3, at 6 p.m. in Elba and is hosted by the Elba Chamber of Commerce.

“Christmas Movies” is this year’s theme. The parade will take place in downtown Elba, beginning and ending on Dixon Street by the old high school foot-

ball stadium. Families and friends will line the streets as over 100 parade entries march down to the courthouse square.

Entries for this year’s parade are now being accepted. Businesses, floats, antique cars, beauty queens and more are welcome to join the award-winning Elba High School Marching Tiger Band, EHS Dance Line and Cheerleaders, the local police and fire department, the Coffee County Sheriff, elected officials, and others.

The deadline to enter the parade is Friday, Nov. 30th. There is no fee to participate.

There will be live performances on Court Street in front of the public viewing stands and the parade stage. The Elba Christmas Parade has entertained thousands of children and adults year after year as it winds its way by the historic Coffee County Courthouse. The Christmas parade has become an annual holiday tradition that has continued to be a favorite event for generations. With “Christmas Movies” themed entries, including brightly lighted and colorfully decorated floats vying for first place this is an event not to be missed.

For more information regarding the Elba Christmas Parade, contact the Elba Chamber of Commerce by phone at (334) 897-3125 or by email at elbachamber@troycable.net.

Before and after these special holiday events, citizens are encouraged to ‘shop and dine’ in Elba at the many numerous businesses, and help kick off the holiday season in fashion for the city.

Shop, dine and have a good time in  
**Elba**

**Saturday, December 1**

**Cruisin’ Christmas Car Show-Square-12 p.m.-4 p.m.**  
**Christmas Craft Bazaar-Coffeehouse-12 p.m.-5 p.m.**  
**SEC Championship Game- Elba Theatre-4 p.m.**  
**Christmas Photos-Christmas Tree-1p.m.-3 p.m.**  
**Lighting &Caroling at the Elba Tree-5 p.m.-6 p.m.**

**Monday, December 3**

**The Christmas Parade 6 p.m. Downtown**

**ITS CHRISTMAS!**

ELBA (Continued from Page ONE)

issue. This money can be used for certain municipal projects, but is not part of the general fund. The city has already used \$23,728 of this fund to purchase a Street Department truck.

Two new police cars have been ordered and one is already paid for from city funds.

Regular income shows that sales taxes for the month of October are up about a thousand dollars from the same period last year. Garbage fees are also up slightly. Building permits are not a major source of income for Elba, but are up slightly compared to last year.

Murdock said city residents should be prepared for an increase in sewer fees later this year. The amount and timing will be

based on state and federal officials and will be factored on the cost of repaying the massive multi-million dollar 40-year sewer rehab loan.

Council members were informed of several upcoming events. James Baldwin would be feted with a retirement party on Wednesday of this week, the Elba Christmas Parade is December 3rd, the City Christmas party will be held on December 5th, a council workshop is set for this Thursday [Nov. 29th] at 6 p.m. Also, as is tradition, the two (2) required monthly council meetings in December will be held on Monday, December 10th – one immediately following the other.

By DAVID RAINER  
Alabama Department of  
Conservation and Natural  
Resources

The ripples emanating from the sides of the 2-foot-long piece of pool noodle was just what Joe Dunn hoped to see.

It meant there was something attached to the line that dropped some 15 feet into the murky waters of the Alabama River near Camden.

During the dog days of summer, this fishing tactic is what Dunn prefers because the heat makes it unbearable to crappie fish in hopes of catching seven or eight keepers. The same goes for bass fishing.

So, Dunn turns to the plentiful catfish that inhabit Alabama’s many rivers, and lets the jugs, or noodles in this case, do the fishing while he enjoys a restful night of sleep. If he’s ambitious, he’ll

run the 20 or so jugs during the night. If not, he’ll head out at dawn to find out what’s been biting.

Catching bait might be the only real work involved in “jug” fishing.

“The predominant bait on Millers Ferry is going to be shad that you catch with your cast net,” Dunn said. “But skipjacks (members of the herring family) are another excellent bait. It’s a little harder, sometimes, to catch skipjacks. Most people use Sabiki rigs and go behind the power house to catch the skipjacks. But sometimes there’s another way to catch them. If you’re on the river, sometimes you will see skipjacks chasing little river minnows or small shad. You ease over into that area, and when they come up to feed, you throw your cast net and load it up with skipjacks. We did that just the other day with the cast net.

“The key is good, fresh bait.”

Dunn said if you’re planning to do a little tightlining for catfish before you head back to camp to get out of the heat, the skipjacks will stay alive for a little while in the livewell. If you see a couple floating in the livewell, it’s best to get them all out, put them in a plastic bag and get them on ice before they degrade.

Dunn says the best way to deal with leftover skipjacks is to freeze them as soon as possible.

“Freezing skipjacks in water doesn’t work well,” he said. “When you thaw them out, they’re all mushy and just don’t work well. I found out if you put them on a cookie sheet and freeze them individually before putting them in freezer bags, they work a lot better. That’s a big plus.”

bend, most will have a small sandbar. He said the flathead like to hang out at the drop-off behind the sandbar.

“They’re sitting below that bar where the current is running over the top of them, waiting on that bait to come to them,” he said. “I also like to fish where a cut is coming into the main river where the depth goes from 12 to 14 feet down to 30. They like to hang underneath that drop-off. But big blue cats like those spots too.”

Even though Millers Ferry has a reputation as a fantastic crappie fishery, Dunn thinks catfish are overlooked at times.

“This is a super good catfish fishery.”

Dunn said the hot weather pattern for catfish starts around the middle of June and usually runs through October, depending on when we get enough of a cold front to lower the water temperature.

“The hotter it gets, the more you stay in the main river channel,” he said. “I use the noodles because you use a lot longer lines, 15 to 20 feet, and it’s easier to wrap the lines around the noodles when I take them up.”

When he’s targeting the larger fish, Dunn uses a tarred nylon twine for the main lines with a 1½-ounce lead, swivel, monofilament leader and a 5/0 circle hook.

Dunn said the largest flathead catfish he’s hauled in at the Ferry weighed 65 pounds, and the largest blue cat he’s seen weighed 55 pounds.

For “fry ’em whole” small fish, he uses double-hook rigs with smaller hooks and smaller shad for bait.

Dunn takes a break from catfishing during the winter to head to the deer woods. The water gets high during the winter, but he’s back on the river fairly early in the new year.

“We usually start on February 17,” he said. “We’ve always started on that date because that’s my oldest son’s birthday. We would come up to the river and get our jugs ready. But that time of year, you go up in the shallow flats. The catfish will move into the shallow flats before anything else.”

In February, Dunn changes his “jugs” to 20-ounce drink bottles and 1½- to 2-foot lines with a ½-ounce to 1-ounce weight, swivel and foot of 20-pound-test monofilament leader tied to a 3/0 circle hook.

Alabama’s creel limit on catfish is determined by size. For catfish under 34 inches there is no limit. Anglers can keep one catfish 34 inches or longer in most areas of the state. Several river basins – Perdido, Conecuh, Blackwater, Yellow, Choctawhatchee, Chipola and Chattahoochee – are exempt from the size limit. Also, it is unlawful to transport live catfish 34 inches or longer beyond the boundaries of Alabama.

*“Christmas in Elba” Photos*



**Saturday, Dec. 1st**  
**1:00 - 3:00 pm**  
**in front of the Elba Christmas Tree**  
**(old Clements Lot) Downtown Elba**  
**\$5 gets a 5x7 photo**  
*(available for pickup at the Elba Chamber by Friday, Dec. 9th)*  
**Additional 5x7 copies of the photo - \$3.00 each**

*Photos by Linda Hodge, Editor of The Elba Clipper*  
*(to set up a different time, contact Linda at 334.406.3117 or on Facebook)*

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